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Message Text

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17
ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 IO-14 OMB-01 AID-20 EUR-25 SAM-01 SAB-01

DRC-01 /154 W
---------- 064676
R 100545Z JUL 74
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3057

UNCLAS TEL AVIV 3807

E O 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, JO, IS
SUBJECT: JERUSALEM POST-- ON BRIDGE PROBLEMS

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF JERUSALEM POST JULY 9 ARTICLE ON
BRIDGE PROBLEMS. (UNNECESSARY WORDS OMITTEED.)

2. BEGIN TEXT

JORDAN LIMITS DAILY TRAFFIC INTO ISRAEL

JORDANIAN AUTHORITIES YESTERDAY CLAMPED LIMITATIONS ON DAILY
TRAFFIC OF ARAB SUMMER VISITORS CROSSING JORDAN RIVER INTO
ADMINISTERED AREAS AND ISRAEL. HUNDREDS OF VISITORS FROM
VARIOUS NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES WERE REPORTED YESTERDAY TO HAVE
SPENT MIGHT ON JORDANIAN SIDE WAITING FOR THEIR TURN TO CROSS
ALLENBY AND ADAM (DAMYA) BRIDGES AND SPEND SUMMER
HOLIDAY WITH RELATIVES HERE.

3. JORDANIAN AUTHORITIES SAID THAT BEGINNING TODAY, SUMMER
VISITORS WOULD NEED TO OBTAIN PERMIT FROM AMMAN TO GO TO BRIDGES,
ALSO IMPLYING THAT LIMITED NUMBER OF PASSES WILL BE ISSUED
EVERY DAY. JORDANIANS ONLY RECENTLY LIFTED ALL RESTRICTIONS ON ARAB
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VISITORS WHO USUALLY ENTER ISRAEL BETWEEN JULY AND SEPTEMBER.

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ISRAEL CURRENTLY PERMITS VISITS BY ARAB CITIZENS OF NEIGHBORING
COUNTRIES THROUGHTOUT YEAR PROVIDING THEY OBTAIN ENTRY PERMITS
THROUGH LOCAL RELATIVES.

4. OFFICIALS AT JORDAN RIVER BRIDGES REPORT TO DATE ENTRY OF SOME
35,000 VISITORS THIS SUMMER AT PACE OF 3,000 A DAY.

5. CURRENT INFLUX OF VISITORS WAS ATTRIBUTED YESTERDAY TO ABSENCE
OF BASIC RESTRICTIONS AND TO RELATIVE TRANQUILITY IN AREA FOLLOWING
DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENTS WITH EGYPT AND SYRIA.

6. MEANWHILE, AN INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF ARABS IN
ADMINISTERED AREAS AND JERUSALEM TRAVELLING TO EUROPEAN COUNTRIES
THROUGH
AMMAN HAS BEEN REPORTED. AS JORDANIAN CITIZENS, LOCAL ARABS CAN CROSS

BRIDGES AND FLY FROM AMMAN WHERE THEY PAY LESS
TRAVEL TAX THAN AMOUNT DEMANDED IN ISRAEL. MANY OF THERE TOURISTS GO IN

WEEKLY ORGANIZED GROUPS TO RUSSIA, WHERE A 15-DAY TRIP TAKES THEM TO
MOSCOW, LENINGRAD AND KIEV AT COST OF SOME IL2,000 ALL
INCLUSIVE. END TEXT.
VELIOTES

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